

## KNOW THE RISKS. SPOT THE SIGNS. ACT FAST.



## Get Ahead of Sepsis: Protect your patients

<u>Get Ahead of Sepsis</u> from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) encourages healthcare professionals to:

- Prevent infections.
- Be alert to the signs and symptoms of sepsis.
- Act fast if they suspect sepsis.

In addition, *Get Ahead of Sepsis* provides materials and resources to help healthcare professionals educate patients and their caregivers about preventing infections, recognizing early signs and symptoms of worsening infection and sepsis, and seeking immediate care when needed.

## WHAT SHOULD HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS DO IF THEY SUSPECT SEPSIS?

- Know your facility's existing guidance for diagnosing and managing sepsis.
- Immediately alert the clinician in charge if it is not you.
- Start antibiotics as soon as possible, in addition to other therapies appropriate for the patient.
- Check patient progress frequently. Reassess antibiotic therapy within 24-48 hours to stop or change therapy as needed. Be sure antibiotic type, dose, and duration are correct.

To support patients, caregivers, and healthcare professionals, CDC provides <u>educational</u> <u>materials and resources</u>, including fact sheets, brochures, infographics, a public service announcement, and a video about "Four Ways to Get Ahead of Sepsis". Visit <u>www.cdc.gov/sepsis</u> for more information.

